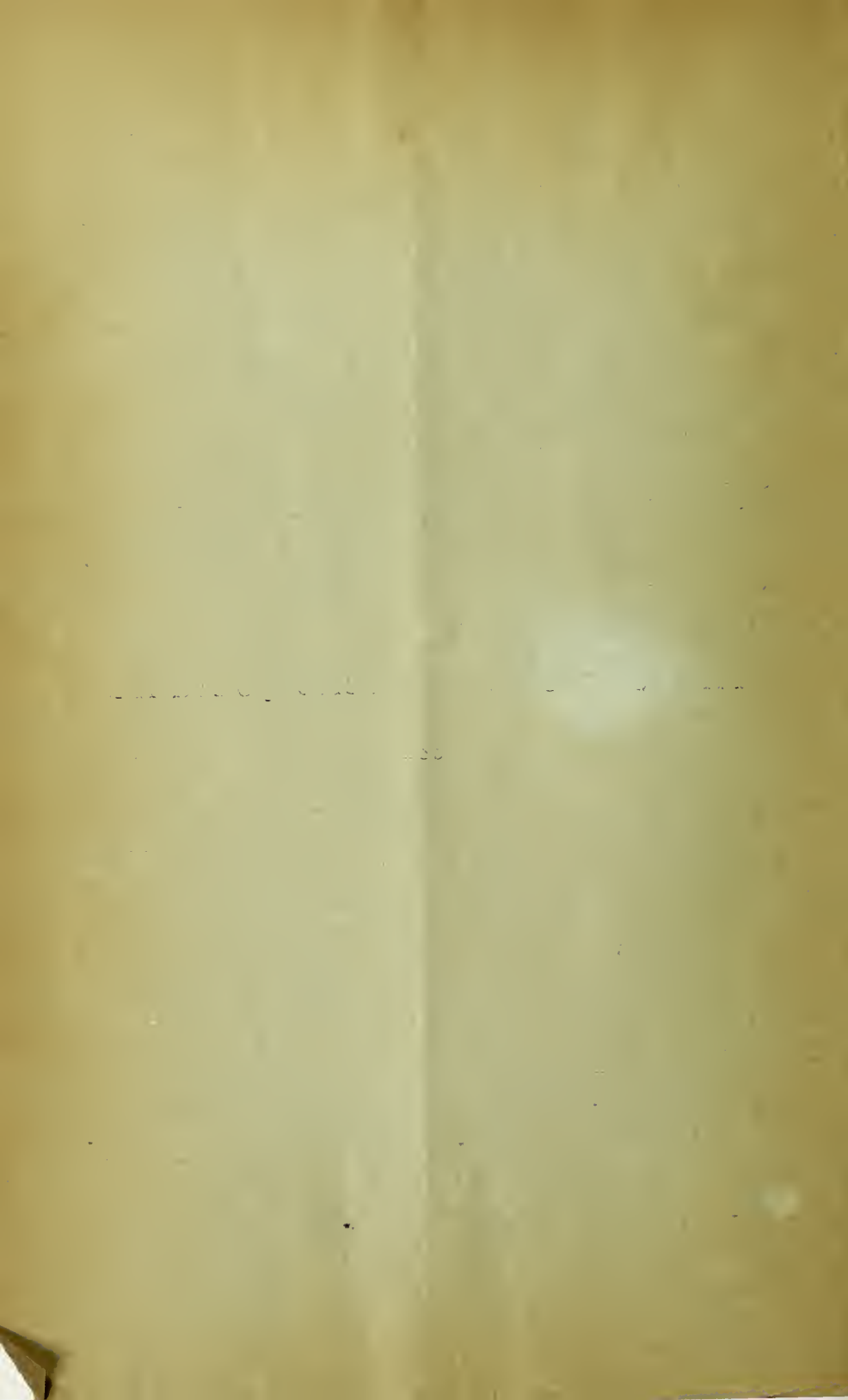
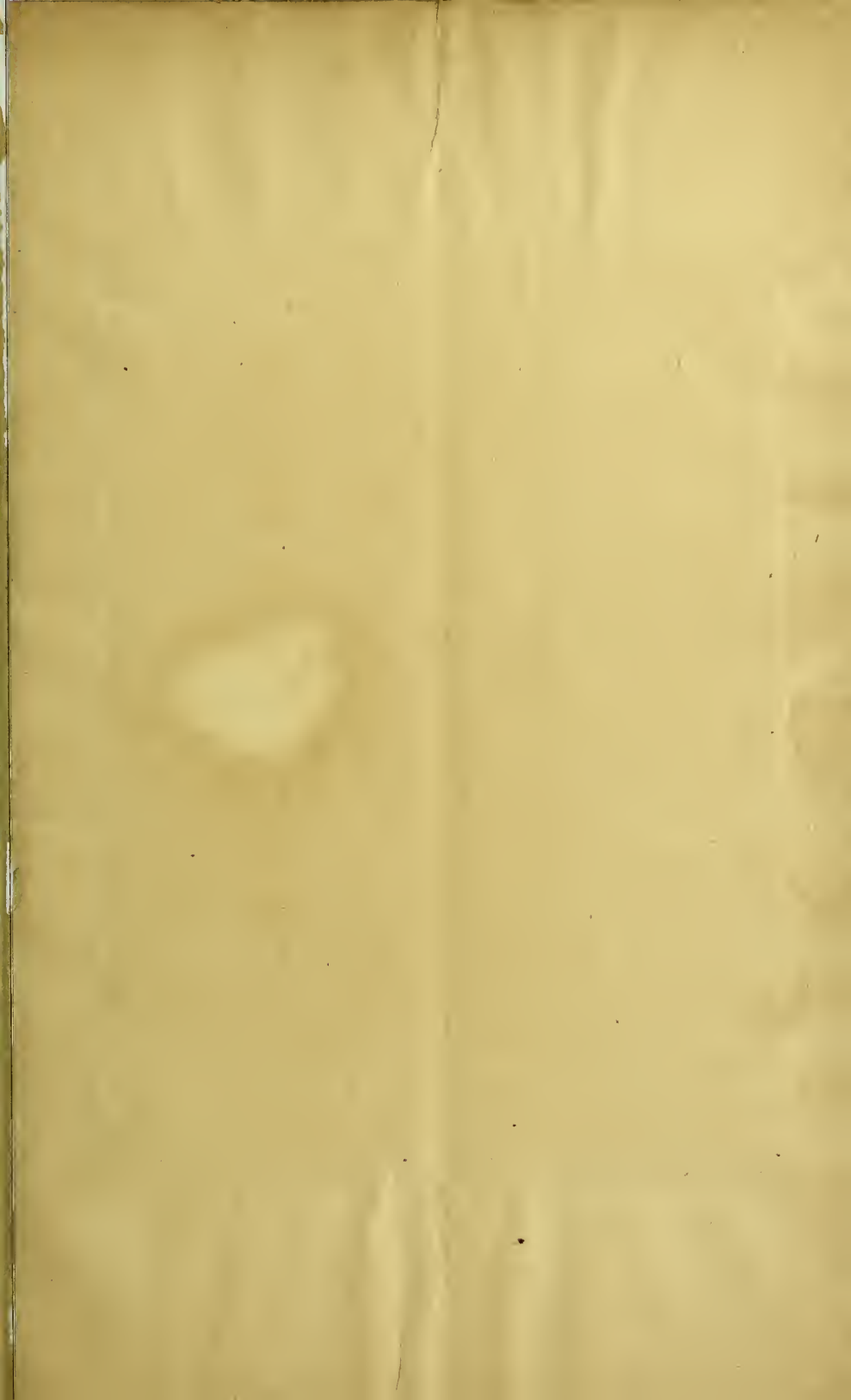

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EXTRAORDINARY, AND PROBABLY UNIQUE, CASE OF STONE IN THE BLADDER.

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(Read before the Pathological Society.)

(With a Photograph.)

IN Holden's *Landmarks of Surgery* it is stated that the operation of dividing the tendo Achilles was first performed by the unfortunate himself, by means of a razor. The late Mr. Syme tells of a patient from the north of Scotland who, for incipient disease of the hip-joint, had had the actual cautery applied with great benefit in the Edinburgh Infirmary, and who, on a return of the pain a considerable time afterwards, having failed to induce any of the medical men in his vicinity to apply what was then considered a barbarous mode of treatment, made a poker red hot and sat down upon it. A medical man, in the agony of toothache, and at a distance from any professional friend, has been known to apply the tooth key, and wrench out a firmly fixed molar. With regard to stone, it is told of a Dutch blacksmith, and of a German cooper, that for the relief of the intense and continuous pain, each performed lithotomy upon himself. There is, however, so far as I can discover, no case recorded where the patient himself tried to break down the stone in his own bladder, as was done in the case I am about to narrate. The case is also unique, in connection with the fact of a calculus of such a size having made its way out of the perinæum without any cutting operation; and it is moreover unique, from its being a case where probably the largest and heaviest stone on record was removed from the human bladder, in which the patient recovered.

CASE.—J. B., a retired draper, was born in the year 1828, and in his youth was a factory operative. In 1845, when at the age of 17, he fell down the well of a hoist, alighting with his legs astride an iron bar, sustaining a double fracture of the left leg, also rupture of the urethra, and laceration of the perinæum. Through the opening in the perinæum, as well as by the urethra, blood passed for a period of two weeks. Two attempts at closure of the perineal fistula were ineffectually

Mr. Birch, at St. Thomas's, one of 16 ounces, but patient did not survive.

Large calculi found in the dead body.—Kesselring states that he saw at M. Moraud's, a specimen weighing 6 pounds, 3 ounces.

Tolet gives three examples weighing 50, 32, and 28 ounces. One, taken from the body of a monk in Paris, was 51 ounces in weight. Verduc gives an instance of one 3 pounds, 3 ounces. One was found as large as the head of a new born child in the bladder of a boy at Bury St. Edmonds. An example, 35 ounces in weight, was removed from the body of one Francis Dogood at Aberdeen; and Greenfield mentions cases of 18, 19½, 25½, and 32 ounces. This last was said to be "exceeding hard, compact, triangular, of the colour of flint, and which, with a steel, would strike fire like a flint." The stone, weighing 25½ ounces, was taken from the body of Sir Thomas Adams, Lord Mayor of London, who died at the age of 82. Of Sir Thomas, Greenfield says, "This gentleman was so abstemious and temperate in drinking, that for forty or fifty years, even at public feasts, he never exceeded a pint of French wine for his share, being always used to conclude with a glass of canary. In his ordinary way of living, he drank constantly every morning a large draught of small beer with sugar"!

The stone, of which he gives a plate, filled the entire bladder, and of which he says, "What was most observable in this stone was, that where the ureters were inserted into the bladder, the urine had made itself a *gutter* of a semicircular form, and from the middle of *that* another straight one, through which it fell into the *urethra*."

Here is a remarkable statement by the same old authority, regarding a matter supposed by many to be a recent discovery—"It is scarce credible," says Greenfield, "how much the urethra may be *dilated* both in men and women. I have taken away, from a virgin of sixteen years of age, a triangular stone of the bigness of an egg, if we may imagine it of that shape, by only *dilating* the *urethra*, without cutting or in the least tearing, and by applying ordinary means; in three weeks she was sound and firm, holding her water as well as ever."

To my friend Dr. Dunbar, of Blackburn, Lancashire, I am indebted for the privilege of exhibiting this rare specimen to the Society.